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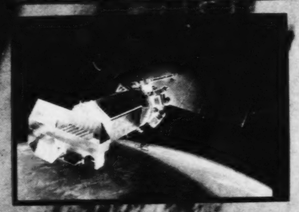
The

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce



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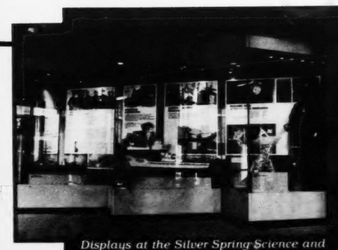
—what is NOAA?

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is one of our Nation's foremost scientific agencies.

We conduct research, collect data, and make predictions about our environment --the oceans, atmosphere, outer space, and Sun.

Millions of Americans know us as the people who--

- Forecast the weather and warn of hurricanes, tornadoes, floods,and tidal waves
- Chart the seas and skies
- Guide our use of the ocean and its resources
- Protect endangered ocean species



Displays at the Silver Spring Science and History Center

The first building of NOAA's new complex in Silver Spring

NOAA Information Service (NIS)

The NOAA Information Service (NIS) is another NOAA education effort. It provides you with a convenient way to find out about more than 600 products and services offered by NOAA, their cost (if any), and how to obtain them.

To speak with an NIS Information Specialist, call toll-free 1-800-648-6209 anywhere in the United States, or call (202) 842-7460 in Washington, DC, and (206) 526-9403 in Washington State, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

NOAA's

NOAA's new building complex in Silver Spring, MD, now under construction, will bring many of our science services together for the first time.

The buildings will also feature educational facilities and other amenities designed to serve visitors and the local community.

By 1992, many of NOAA's 3,500 employees in the Washington, DC, area will occupy offices here. Exhibits in each building will highlight NOAA's history, sciences, and public services.

The first building in the Silver Spring complex has been completed. It houses the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research, and a portion of the Science and History Center.

The proposed Science and History Center in Silver Spring, MD, is one of two such NOAA centers. The second center is located in Rockville, MD.

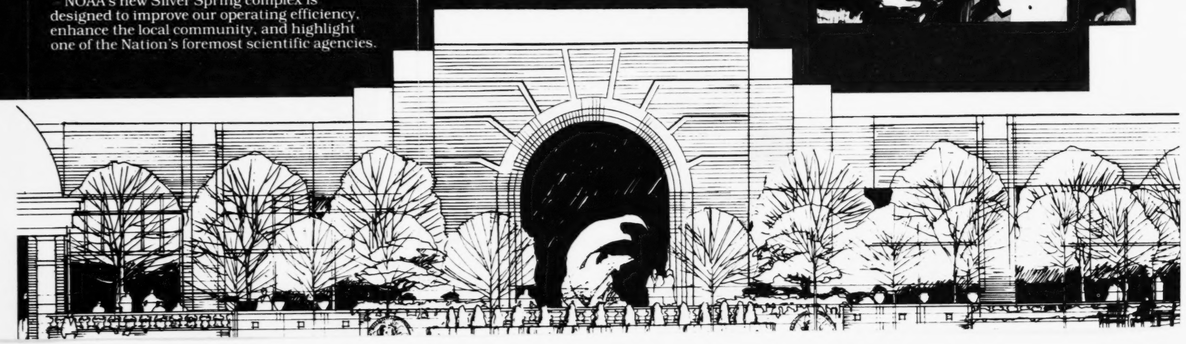
NOAA's new Silver Spring complex is designed to improve our operating efficiency, enhance the local community, and highlight one of the Nation's foremost scientific agencies.

NOAA's

NOAA's scientific mission goes beyond doing research, collecting data, and making predictions about our environment.

It includes education--sharing what we learn so all Americans may benefit. Our education efforts range from formal NOAA programs to volunteer efforts by our employees, including:

- "AM Weather" on public TV
- Classroom visits and lectures
- Research grants
- Tours of NOAA facilities
- Conferences and training programs
- Science and career fairs
- Adopt-a-School programs
- Exhibits and displays
- Slide shows and videos
- Public-private partnerships
- Career counseling
- Information exchanges
- Publications



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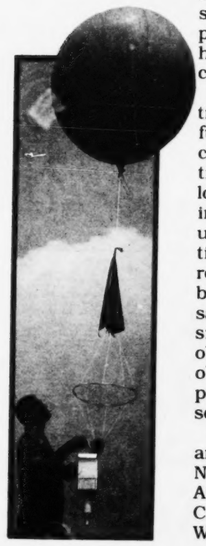

December 1989

NOAA facts

NOAA was created in 1970 within the U.S. Department of Commerce. With 13,000 employees, it is the Department's largest agency and has 30% of its employees.

NOAA is composed of some of the oldest agencies in the government and has a historic tradition of service. The current National Ocean Service, for example, began with Thomas Jefferson's Survey of the Coast in 1807.

NOAA's headquarters are in Washington, DC, and we have nearly 3,500 employees working in the capital area.

We also have thousands of employees stationed around the country--in weather stations, laboratories, ships, aircraft, and a permanent underwater habitat off the Nation's coast.

For its weather observation and forecasting functions alone, NOAA collects weather observations from hundreds of locations across the Nation, including surface and upper-air observing stations, cooperative weather reporting ships, ocean data buoys,environmental satellites, weather radar sites, and volunteer observers. International observations are also provided by cooperating services around the world.

For more information on any NOAA program, write--NOAA, Office of Public Affairs, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 6013, Washington, DC 20230.

NOAA's services

To fulfill our scientific mission, NOAA has five service operations and a corps of commissioned officer-scientists.

National Weather Service

The National Weather Service provides daily weather forecasts across the Nation, including specialized forecasts for pilots, boaters, farmers, water-resource managers, and foresters, and furnishes warnings of hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and tidal waves.

National Ocean Service

The National Ocean Service produces nautical and aeronautical charts, defines land boundaries, works with coastal and Great Lakes states to manage the Nation's coastal zone, operates marine and estuarine sanctuaries, and monitors water pollution.

National Marine Fisheries Service

The National Marine Fisheries Service studies and manages the living resources within 200 miles of our shores, protects marine habitats and endangered species, and assures that seafood products are clean, safe, and wholesome through the Voluntary Seafood Inspection and Grading Program.

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

The National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service operates satellite systems and data centers that supply continuous reports on conditions of our weather, climate, floods, crops, and oceans--data vital to our safety, food supplies, energy resources, and construction industries.

Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research

The Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research conducts environmental research at many laboratories. It supports university research directed at improved weather forecasts and warnings, the development and use of our marine resources through the Sea Grant College network, and the study of many other aspects of the oceans, the atmosphere, and the Earth-Sun relationship.

Support Operations

NOAA has many offices that lend support to the five services listed above. Among these is the Office of NOAA Corps Operations.

The NOAA Corps, the Nation's seventh uniformed service, has over 400 commissioned officer-scientists. They command NOAA's ships, fly its aircraft, work on field surveys, and serve in every environmental discipline.